

## **REMARKS**

In the Office Action of May 9, 2002, Claims 6 - 9 were rejected. Claims 10 - 17 were allowed. In response, Claim 6 is amended. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

### **Request for Entry of Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116**

It is respectfully requested that the above amendment to Claim 6 be entered. It is respectfully submitted that this amendment overcomes the rejection of Claims 6 - 9 over Suzuki and that the applicants have a good and sufficient reason why the amendment was not presented earlier in that the Suzuki reference was not applied against Claim 6 until the final Office Action of May 9, 2002.

### **Rejection of Claims 6 - 9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Suzuki**

Claims 6 - 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Suzuki, U.S. Patent No. 5,484,940. The Examiner alleges that Suzuki teaches compounds of instant formula I for use in the treatment of Parkinson's disease and that Parkinson's disease is a degenerative disease of the nervous system.

It is respectfully submitted that this rejection is overcome by the amendment to Claim 6 presented herein, wherein the present invention is directed to a method of inhibiting neurodegeneration except Parkinson's disease. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of Claims 6 - 9 over Suzuki is thereby overcome.

### **Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 6 - 9 are in condition for allowance, together with the previously allowed

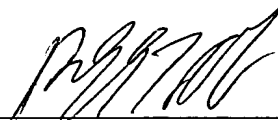
Claims 10 - 17. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Kindly charge any additional fees due, or credit overpayment of fees, to  
Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (File No. 506.38266X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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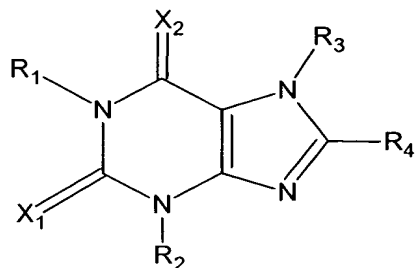
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Attachment: Marked-up copy showing changes made

**MARKED-UP COPY TO SHOWING CHANGES MADE**

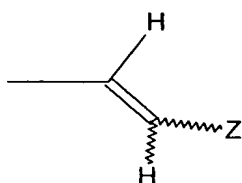
**IN THE CLAIMS:**

6. (Twice amended) A method of inhibiting neurodegeneration except  
Parkinson's disease, which comprises administering an effective dose of a xanthine  
derivative represented by formula (I):

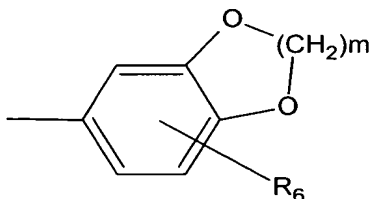


(I)

wherein X<sub>1</sub> and X<sub>2</sub> independently represent O or S, R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> independently  
represent hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkenyl or lower alkynyl; R<sub>4</sub> represents the  
following group:



wherein Y<sub>1</sub> and Y<sub>2</sub> independently represent hydrogen, halogen or lower alkyl, and Z  
represents substituted or unsubstituted aryl, or the following group:



wherein m is an integer of 1 to 3 and R<sub>6</sub> represents hydrogen, hydroxy, lower alkyl,  
lower alkoxy, halogen, nitro or amino, or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic  
group selected from furyl and pyridyl; and wherein the substituted aryl and the

substituted heterocyclic group have 1 to 3 independently-selected substituents selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, hydroxy, lower alkoxy or lower alkoxy substituted with a substituent(s) selected from the group consisting of hydroxy, lower alkoxy, halogen, amino, azido, carboxy and lower alkoxycarbonyl, halogen, nitro, amino, lower alkylamino, di(lower alkyl)amino, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, benzyloxy, phenyl, phenoxy, lower alkanoyl, lower alkanoyloxy, aroyloxy, aralkanoyloxy, carboxy, lower alkoxycarbonyl, lower alkylcarbamoyl, di(lower alkyl)carbamoyl, sulfo, lower alkoxysulfonyl, lower alkylsulfamoyl and di(lower alkyl)sulfamoyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, as an active ingredient.